



MILWAUKEE NUMISMATIC NEWS

September 2023 – The August MNS meeting will be held Thursday, September 21, at 6 PM in the Mayfair Mall Community Room. Members are welcome to bring show and tell items. The program will be numismatic trivia with competing teams.

President: Justin Perrault
Secretary: James Kubley
Sgt. at Arms: Dave Herrewig
Trustee '23-'25: Dave Hunsicker
Librarian: Justin Perrault

Vice President: Jim Heinrich
Treasurer: Chris Kantak
Trustee '22-'24: Jordan Heller
Trustee '21-'23: Gary Bieringer
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The Milwaukee Numismatic Society, founded in 1934, is the oldest and largest organization in Milwaukee devoted to the study of money. Meetings are now held from 6 to 8 PM in the Mayfair Mall community room on the third Thursday of each month.

September Coin of the Month: For August, we offer a 1 oz. US 2021 Silver Eagle Type I, certified First Day of Issue MS70 by PCGS. Starting price for this flawless gem set is only \$50.



September 2023 MNS President's Message

I hope that everyone had a nice Labor Day and enjoys wrapping up another year now that summer is pretty much over. The planning for our fall coin show is in full swing and we were able to find a new source for our printed raffle tickets. Be sure to check these out and pick up a stack at the next meeting to sell to your friends.

Sad news to report: the hobby and our local clubs recently lost a legend and all around great guy, Neil Shafer. It had been a while since we last saw him at one of our meetings, but he was still getting out to shows within the last year. Please join me in remembering Neil; our thoughts and prayers go out to his family. Neil, you will be missed, and wherever you are I hope you are at peace with a whole slew of wonderful banknotes. I will always remember the funny puns you shared with us.

We will divide into teams again for the numismatic game to be played at the next meeting. I compiled a list of multiple choice trivia questions we will run through similar to the last time we played, some harder and some easier than others. The winning team with most points will have bragging rights and a nice prize to show for it.

Another reminder not to forget about the trial of a new meeting location for the October meeting, which will also be auction night. The meeting will start at 7:00 PM and we will see how it goes in hopes of using that space beginning January 2024 and going forward.

New Meeting Location for October 2023:

**Cleveland Pub & Grill
14000 W. Cleveland Ave.
New Berlin, WI 53151**

If you have something for show and tell please bring it to the September meeting. In light of the auction at our October meeting, we will not have any exhibits or show and tell.

Happy Collecting,
Justin J. Perrault
masters1122@yahoo.com
262.613.9996



Dave Hunsicker receiving the Adna Wilde Exemplary Service Award at the Pittsburgh ANA Show

MN\$ 2023

Schedule

Monthly meetings for the calendar year will proceed as scheduled. Due to changes at Mayfair Mall, our meetings will run from 6:00-8:00 PM on the 3rd Thursday of each month in the Community Meeting Room in the lower level of Mayfair Mall. Visitors interested in numismatics are welcome.

Monthly meeting programs

Jan 19: General Business/Show & Tell
Feb 16: CANCELLED-SNOW
March 16: Tom C: Play Money Presentation
April 20: Show & Tell-Non Numismatic
May 18: Spring Auction
June 15: Andy Kimmel Presentation
July 20: General Business/Show & Tell
Aug 17: General Business/Show & Tell
Sept 21: Numismatic Trivia Game
Oct 19: Autumn Auction –

MEETING TO BE HELD AT CLEVELAND

PUB & GRILL (7 PM)

Nov 16: Raffle Prize Drawing
Dec 21: Christmas Party/Bingo/Elections

Annual Dues

Dues for 2024 are \$10. Please pay Treasurer Chris K. at the next meeting, or they can be mailed to MNS, PO Box 26886, Wauwatosa, WI 53226-0886. Thanks to those who have paid. Those who have not paid will be removed from the club's mailing list.

Random Information

MNS is a volunteer organization. We always need new and interesting programs, activities, and helpers to work at events. MNS will also reimburse refreshment expenses up to \$60. To volunteer, please contact Pres. Justin Perrault at 262.613.9996 or VP Jim Heinrich at 262.796.1814. Thanks to everyone who has stepped up by volunteering their time and talent to make the club a success.

2023 Numismatic Events

Sept 24: Rockford Coin Club Show
I.B.E.W. Local 364 Hall

6820 Mill Road
Rockford, IL 9-3 PM
Oct 1: Nicolet Coin Club Show
Stadium View Bar & Grill
Green Bay, 9-3 PM
Oct 13: Chet Krause Memorial Park
Dedication – Iola, WI
Oct 29: Elgin, IL Coin Show
Holiday Inn
495 Airport Rd, 9-3 PM
Nov 12: MNS Coin Show, 9-4 PM
Sheraton Hotel Brookfield

Refreshment Schedule

Jan 19: Justin P.
Feb 16: CANCELLED
March 16: Jordan H.
April 20: Dave Hunsicker
May 18: Don K.
June 15: John B.
July 20: Chris & Ray
Aug 17: Justin P.
Sept 21: John B.
Oct 19: NONE-NEW MTG LOCATION
Nov 16: OPEN
Dec 21: Christmas Party

*Milwaukee 7 Mile Fair Commemorative Medal or
So-called Dollar; bronze, 39 mm, 17.57 g*



Milwaukee Numismatic Society

Minutes

August 18, 2023

President Justin Perreault called the 1040th meeting of the MNS to order at 6:06pm. There were 23 members & 1 guest in attendance. The president led the club in the pledge of allegiance. Door prizes were won by Justin P, Tom C, Chris K, John R, and Steve J.

Coin of the Month: John R. won the coin of the month, 2009 Silver Eagle \$1 MS69, with a winning bid of \$61.00.

Minutes: The minutes for July 2023 were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Chris K. reported June showed net receipts of \$72.00, Vanguard transfer, and \$1,029.98 in net disbursements for a negative net cash flow of \$56.83. July showed net receipts of \$33.00, Vanguard transfer, and \$188.44 in net disbursements for a positive net cash flow of \$762.30. There was also a financial update on MNS Coin Show.

Correspondence: World Coin News, Bank Statement, and Insurance Document

Vice President Report: We are set for refreshments and programs for what is remaining of 2023.

MNS Auction – Our fall auction will be during the October meeting so please inform Leon S. if you have any items you would like to include in the auction. Our meeting in October will be held at the Cleveland Pub & Grill in New Berlin at 7:00 pm.

MNS Coin Show – Paul K provided us with an update on the Club's annual Coin Show. The show will be on Nov 12. Please consider volunteering at the show.

Annual Banquet – As of now our annual banquet does not look like it will be happening this year for various reasons.

Central States Numismatic Society – The Society has hired a new Show Coordinator. More information can be found on the Society's website.

Show & Tell: Adele – 7777 & Edith / Justin P – Misc Acquisitions / Howard T – New Currency Acquisitions / Tom C – Google Lens / Leon S – Italy Trip + 5 Medals / Dave H – ANA Trip / Bruce B – ANA Show Swag – Sample Slabs / John B – ANA Show, MNS 50th, VAM's / Jordan H – British 2 Pound HG Wells Commemorative.

The meeting was informally adjourned at 7:51pm by President Perrault.

Respectfully submitted by James Kubley

Neil Shafer (1933-2023)



Neil Shafer was born in Chicago in 1933. He attended Arizona State College, graduating with a BA in 1955. From 1955 to 1959 he served in the U. S. Air Force and played viola in the Air Force Band. He married the former Edith Oelsner on June 7, 1964 and was blessed with two sons and a daughter. He had a lifelong interest in music, serving as assistant conductor of the Racine Symphony Orchestra from 1963 to 1972. From 1959 to 1962 he was employed as an elementary school teacher. From 1962 to 1975 he worked with Western Publishing in Racine as numismatic editor and from 1976 to 1981 as senior editor. From 1981 to 1985 he worked for Krause Publications of Iola.

Neil was a prolific author writing several books and countless articles. Notable among these are: *A Guide Book of Modern United States Currency* (which went through eight editions from 1965 to 1979); *Let's Collect Paper Money* (1976); *Standard Catalog of Depression Scrip of the United States* (1985); *Banknotes, Scrip and Paper Ephemera of Milwaukee* (1990); *Guidebook of Philippine Paper Money* (1964), and *Panic Scrip of 1893, 1907, and 1914* (2013). He contributed the "Paper Money News and Views" column to *Bank Note Reporter* and "Paper Views" to *Numismatic News* for many years.

He has received countless awards, including the ANA Medal of Merit (1990); the *Numismatic News* Numismatic Ambassador (1992); the NLG Clemy Award (2004); Lifetime Achievement Award (2007); the ANA Hall of Fame (2008); IBNS Hall of Fame (2010); the ANA Farran Zerbe Memorial Award for Distinguished Service (2014); and the SPMC Hall of Fame (2018). Neil was a beloved and respected member of the numismatic community. His influence on the hobby cannot be overstated. He was full of fascinating stories and his biography could fill many more pages. He was an active numismatist since the 1940s. A true educator and evangelist for numismatics, Neil has written for every major and many smaller and local publications, taught at the ANA Summer Seminar, and has made presentations to an uncountable assortment of organizations.

I first met Neil at a coin show around 1978, when I was examining an offering of Armenian paper currency at a dealer's table. Neil was there and he pointed out to me some of the intricacies of the notes that I was studying. It was my first excursion into the field and I have Neil to thank for helping me get started. Years later, he showed me some rare Armenian notes that were missing in my collection, and I was able to purchase most of them in his 2014 "Money of the People" sale. He was generous with his knowledge and enthusiasm for numismatics and he will be greatly missed.--LAS

Physical Cryptocurrency Sells Big at Auction

\$621,590 in physical Bitcoin and cryptocurrency coins was sold by Stack's Bowers Galleries in the Physical Cryptocurrency Session of its June 2023 Showcase Auction. Presented was a combined face-value of 12.79 Bitcoin, among other minor currencies, equal to approximately \$320,000 at the time of the auction.

With average premiums approaching 200 percent of face value, bidders continue to embrace cryptocurrency coins as desirable numismatic collectibles. This result also reflects a 25 percent year-over-year increase in total prices realized compared to the firm's June 2022 offering.

Silver coinage from the pre-2014 era drew the strongest prices of the session, topped by a silver 2013 Casascius gold rim 1 Bitcoin that sold for \$78,000. The counterpart from the Lealana series, a 2013 gold B 1 Bitcoin, also drew a strong price of \$66,000. A fractional 2013 Casascius 0.1 Bitcoin in silver sold for an result of \$10,200.

The ever-popular brass Casascius 1 Bitcoin continued to draw strong premiums from bidders, with examples from 2011, 2012 and 2013 each selling for \$40,800. A 2015 Denarium 1 Bitcoin earned \$33,600 in the first such offering of the variety by Stack's Bowers.

The Litecoin currency boasted similarly strong results, led by a 2013 Lealana 25 Litecoin that sold for \$4,320 and a 2013 Lealana 10 Litecoin that brought \$2,280. A 2013 Lealana 1 Litecoin also sold for an impressive result of \$384.

The Non-Loaded category was similarly replete with rarities, including a Redeemed 2011 Casascius "Bearer" Bitcoin storage bar that sold for \$4,320, Unfunded 2013 Lealana 0.5 Bitcoin and 25 Litecoin pieces that each brought \$2,280, and a Redeemed 2012 Casascius "Bitnickel" 5 Bitcoin that sold for \$1,440.

The sale also marked the first offering of a Polymerbit bank note by Stack's Bowers, and bidders recognized this opportunity with a robust result of \$720. ♦



Leading Stack's Bowers Physical Cryptocurrency auction was a silver 2013 Casascius gold rim 1 Bitcoin that hammered for \$78,000. (All images courtesy Stack's Bowers Galleries.)



Another top piece was a 2013 Lealana gold B1 Bitcoin. It sold for \$66,000.



The first of its kind on offer from Stack's Bowers was a Polymerbit bank note that went to its new owner for \$720.



Civil War-era gold cache found in Kentucky cornfield

Amaris Encinas
USA TODAY

Coin collectors rejoiced after gold was struck in a Kentucky cornfield, literally.

More than 800 gold Civil War-era coins were discovered after being buried more than 150 years ago.

Part of what makes this collection such a rare find is that there weren't too many gold coins manufactured during the Civil War, Louisville Numismatic Exchange President Byrd Saylor told USA TODAY.

It wasn't unusual for people to bury their money during times of war to keep it safe but what might make these coins sell for a premium is all the mystery surrounding their discovery, Saylor said.

What's Kentucky got to do with this?

Kentucky declared its neutrality at the beginning of the Civil War as tensions ran high between Northern and Southern states.

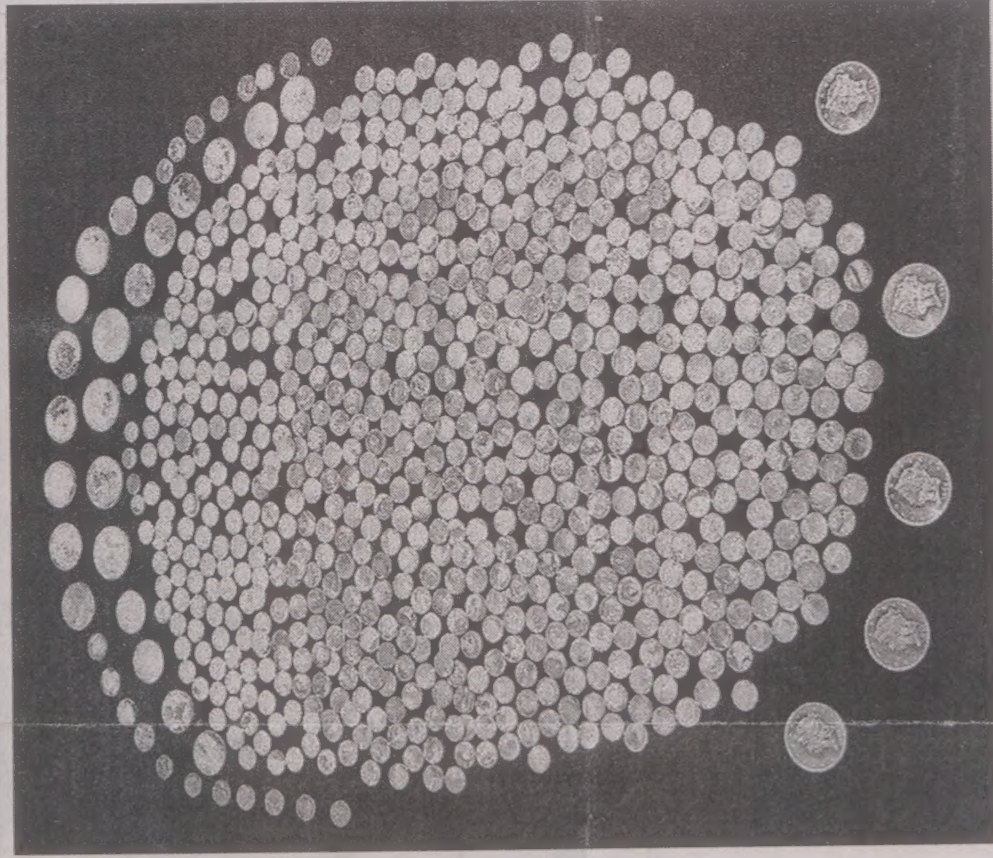
Despite the declaration of neutrality, many families in the state were pitted against one another.

A rare coin dealer was called in to inspect the coins upon discovery.

"The importance of this discovery cannot be overstated, as the stunning number of over 700 gold dollars represents a virtual time capsule of Civil

More than 800 gold coins were discovered in a Kentucky cornfield last month after being buried more than 150 years ago.

MINTGOV.COM



Kentucky Hoard consists of U.S. gold dollars and gold Liberty Coins from 1840-1863, with gold dollars making up about 95% of the collection, according to GovMint.com and the Numismatic Guaranty Company.

Each coin that is part of the collection was struck in 90% gold at the Philadelphia, Denver, San Francisco, New Orleans, or Carson City, Nevada, mints.

- U.S. Gold Dollars from 1854-1862.
- \$10 Gold Liberty (20) from 1840-1862
- \$20 Gold Liberty (8) from 1857 and 1862
- \$20 Gold Liberty (18) from 1863
- A small number of silver coins

In a video posted by GovMint.com, you see a man digging up the coins that are caked in dirt, noting how unreal the find was.

The coins were sent to Numismatic Guaranty Company for certification and grading. After the dirt was removed, coin experts found that most of the collection was in pristine condition, receiving an "extremely fine to mint state" designation.

The coins that were in extremely fine condition were likely circulated lightly around before being buried, while some of the other coins could have been picked up at a bank and never used.

While the details of the finder and location will remain confidential, the coins are available for purchase online at GovMint.com or over the phone at 888-870-6339.

Garrett wrote in Numismatic Guaranty Company's press announcement.

What is the Great Kentucky Hoard?

The coin collection dubbed the Great

War-era coinage, including coins from the elusive Dahlonega Mint. Finding one Mint condition 1863 Double Eagle would be an important numismatic event. Finding nearly a roll of superb examples is hard to comprehend," Jeff



Designed to look like standard Indian currency, zero-rupee notes are larger and printed on thicker paper. That discourages folding, which is a common way for bribes to be passed.

Bribe-busting Bill In India, where corruption costs the public and private sectors millions of dollars a year, demands for petty bribes are frequently signaled in code: “Take care of me” or, for a two-note handout, “Make Gandhi smile twice.” Illegal demands by police and bureaucrats are “deeply ingrained in the culture,” says anticorruption crusader Vijay Anand, and are “taken as the norm.”

But 5th Pillar, Anand’s grassroots citizens group, is trying to create a new norm—by printing and passing out notes worth nothing at all (above). Since 2007, 5th Pillar has distributed 1.3 million zero-rupee bills. People give them as

a polite protest to officials trying to squeeze extra payment for routine services like issuing driver’s licenses or loans. The effect has been to shame or scare some public servants—who can go to jail if they’re caught—into honest behavior. The zero-rupee note, says anticorruption researcher Fumiko Nagano, emboldens people to assert their rights, because when they’re backed up by 5th Pillar, “they realize they are not alone.”

Nor is India. Zero-currency notes are spreading to help fight corruption in Mexico and Nepal as well—an affirmation of nonviolent resistance that would surely have made Gandhi smile for real. —Hannah Bloch